area where the ground water is generally saline and not fit for drinking;

(b) A scheme for installation of 250 new tubewells and 200 additional deep bore hand-pumps during 1998-99 has been launched;

(c) 4 underground reservoirs and booster pumping stations located at Burari, Sultanpuri, Shastri Nagar and Holambi Kalan were commissioned during the current year; and

(d) about 1000 water trucks/tankers have been deployed for supplying potable water in far flung colonies, rural areas, slums/JJ clusters and other deficit areas.

**RDX with Punjab Militants**

4655. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrest of two suspected Punjab Militants alongwith 18 Kgs. of RDX and sophisticated ABCD timer devices in Punjabi Bagh area of West Delhi has been reported in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof with names of VIPs of Delhi who were in the hit-list of arrested terrorists;

(c) whether the militants can implant powerful bombs in the over-crowded buses in Delhi to take revenge of these arrests taking advantage of the situation; and

(d) if so, the steps to be taken to reduce over-crowding?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Delhi Police arrested two suspected militants on the 9th July, 1998 following the recovery of 18 kilograms of RDX, 4 ABCD Timers, etc. from a truck in Punjabi Bagh area of Delhi. The interrogation of the arrested persons has not so far revealed that any particular VIP was on their hit-list.

(c) and (d) The terrorists have the inherent advantage of selecting the time, place and target for perpetuating their ghastly acts. The buses carrying passengers are especially vulnerable in this context. Delhi Police on their part have taken several measures to prevent such crimes. These include intensified deployment of police personnel at Inter-State Bus Terminus and Railway Stations in Delhi; random checking of buses; and increased surveillance on suspected hide-outs of militants.

**Smugglers Nexus with Police**

4656. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has seen the news-item appearing in The Hindustan Times on 2nd July, 1998, under the heading "6 Pak nationals escape";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that some Pakistani nationals who entered India for spying were detained at the joint interrogation centre at Bhuj (Kutch) escaped from police custody;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that Kutch area is the centre of Pakistani smugglers who visit both countries without any restrictions as they have nexus with the security and police agencies; and

(e) if so, cases of this nature occurred during the last five years and the number of complaints received against involvement of police or security agencies, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Facts of the matter are that on the night of June 30/July 1st, 1998, six Pak nationals (including four of Bangladesh origin) detained in Joint Interrogation Centre (JIC) Bhuj (Gujarat) escaped from police custody by breaking the iron grille of the toilet. Five